



THE SPIRIT of internationalism in its broadest application was the prevailing characteristic of relations between the various countries of America during 1908.

The year was marked by numerous gatherings of the representative elements of national life both in Latin America and the United States and on all occasions indications of a unanimity of sentiment and community of interest were markedly displayed.

Of paramount importance was the carrying into effect of the various conventions of the Washington phase

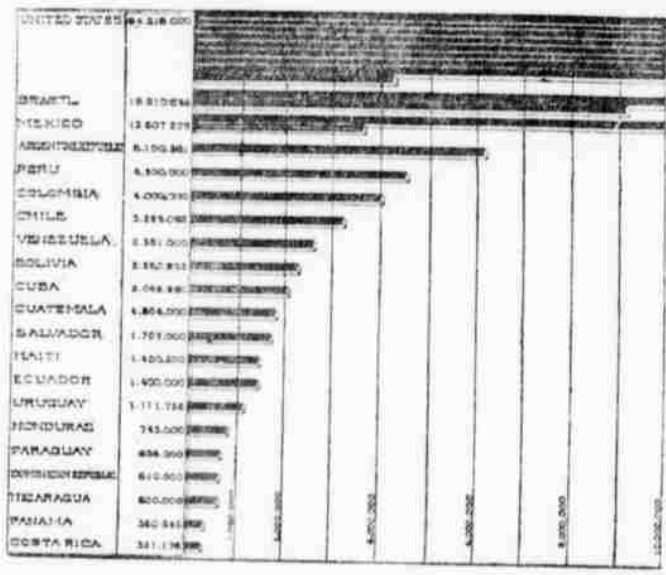
# WEALTH OF LATIN AMERICA

BY  
HERBERT  
F.  
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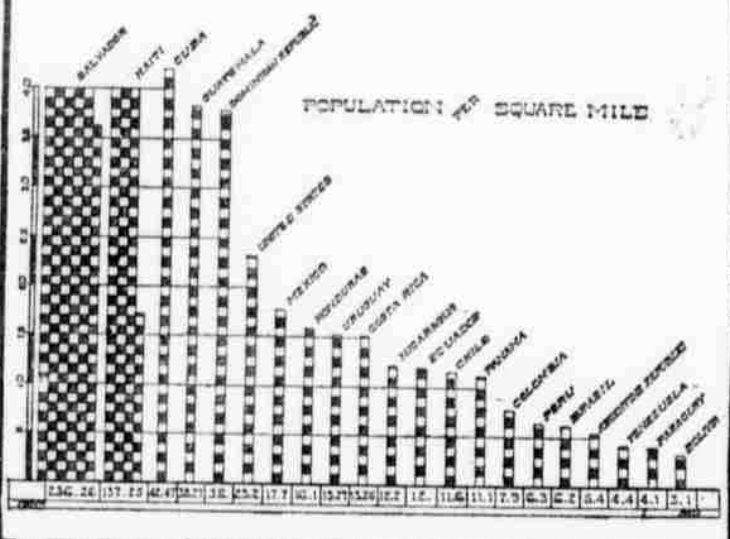


GENERAL  
JUAN VICENTE  
GOMEZ

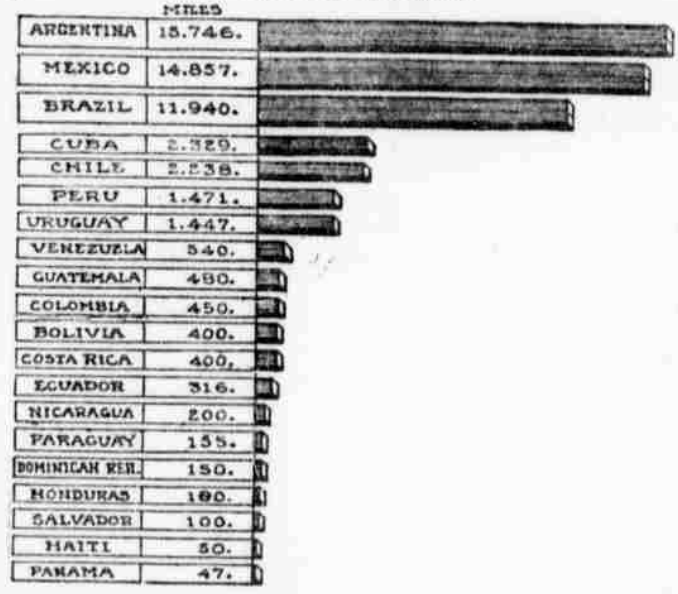
POPULATION OF THE AMERICAN REPUBLICS



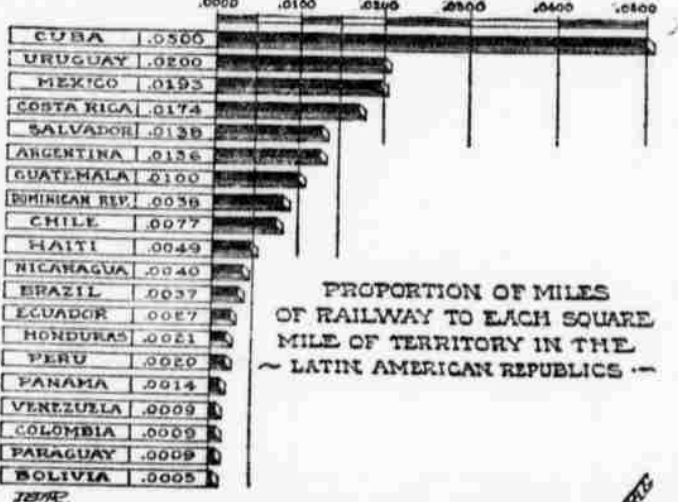
POPULATION PER SQUARE MILE



RAILWAY MILEAGE OF LATIN AMERICA



PROPORTION OF MILES OF RAILWAY TO EACH SQUARE MILE OF TERRITORY IN THE LATIN AMERICAN REPUBLICS



Conference of 1907 entered into by the republics of Central America. In accordance with these conventions the Central American court of justice held its first session in May, 1908, at Cartago, Costa Rica, the first judicial decision being rendered in December. On September 15 the Central American bureau was inaugurated in the capital of Guatemala for the furtherance of reciprocal interests among the nations of Central America and with the assembling of the first Central American conference at Tegucigalpa, Honduras, in the first month of 1909, additional emphasis is given to the intention of the nations interested to embrace all feasible means for the development of their material possibilities.

The participation of Pan-America was a feature of the Lake Mohonk conferences of 1908 and 1909 and active interest was indicated in such industrial assemblies as the International Fisheries congress, the Irrigation congress, the Trans-Mississippi Commercial congress, the Rivers and Harbors congress and the Conservation congress, all of which were held in the United States and attended by delegates from the republics to the south.

In the field of science the Fifth Pan-American Medical congress, meeting in Guatemala City during August, was

entire congress, marked the entry of the United States into the realm of intellectual activity covered by the four Latin-American scientific congresses previously held. As a compli-

ports, \$1,116,449,581, and exports \$1,752,833,247, as compared with \$3,346,596,925, composed of \$1,423,169,829 and \$1,923,426,995 for imports and exports, respectively, in 1907, a de-

demand for articles of Latin-American origin created a trade balance in favor of the producing countries to the extent of \$191,229,023, in which sum the exports for the year exceeded the imports.

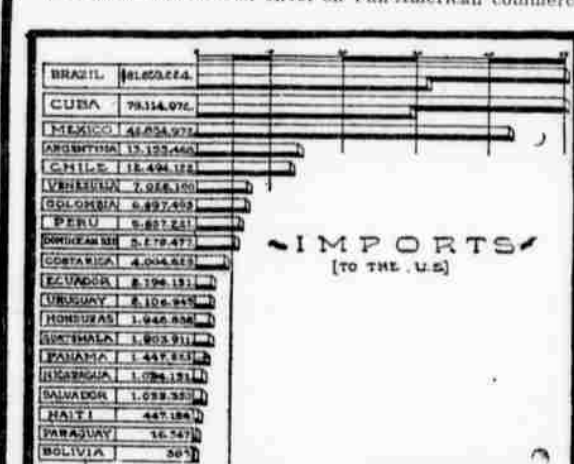
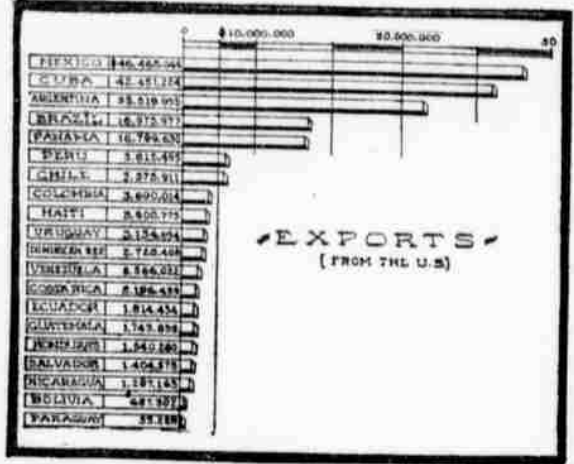
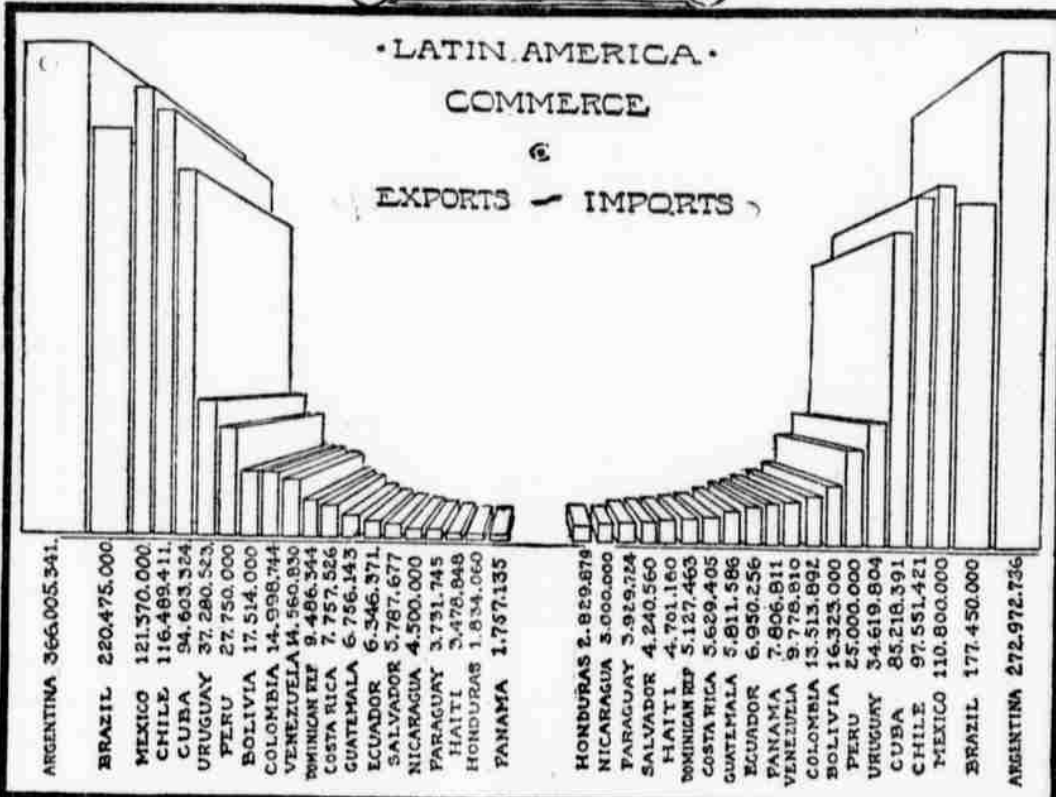
In the year's trade total for Latin America the United States' share was \$468,216,456, as compared with \$558,279,201 in 1907, receipts of Latin-American merchandise figuring on the trade lists of the country for \$271,498,425 and shipments of United States goods to those countries being represented by \$196,718,030, as compared with imports worth \$317,726,133 and exports \$240,553,068 in 1907.

In considering the figures given above, adverse conclusions must not be drawn as to the value of the Latin-American field of trade. The falling off in the exchange of commodities for the year 1908 with the United States, as already suggested, was due almost entirely to unfavorable and unusual economic conditions. The reliable measure of such value is determined by comparing the statistics of the present with those of 10 years ago, and here a great increase is shown. The outlook for the coming year is good, and there is an awakening among business men in both North and South America to the possibilities of trade exchange heretofore undeveloped which must have a beneficial effect on Pan-American commerce.

•LATIN AMERICA•

## COMMERCE

### EXPORTS - IMPORTS



an event of note, and the gathering of savants of the western hemisphere in Santiago de Chile in December, for the purpose of holding the first Pan-American Sci-

ment to this co-operative action, Washington was selected for the next meeting place of the congress, in 1912.

Intellectual stimulus has been aroused through the holding of students' congresses and the year 1908 was marked by an increased number of Latin-American students in United States universities as well as by a vastly augmented interest on the part of the United States in the applied educational methods of Latin-American countries.

Not the least contributing factor in this interest is the better knowledge being daily acquired through the tide of travel which is setting toward Latin America and for which improved communication facilities are largely responsible.

With the assembling of the fourth International Conference of American States in Buenos Aires in 1910 the common interests of the American nations will be still further accentuated and the results of the previous meetings at Washington, Mexico and Rio de Janeiro reported on in the light of recent events demonstrating the status of America as a whole in world affairs.

The aggregate of trade for the various countries composing the International Union of American Republics during 1908 was \$4,847,019,947, against \$5,415,798,197 in the preceding year. This loss of over \$550,000,000 is attributable to well-known economic causes which affected commercial centers throughout the world.

In the total for the year the share of the United States is represented by \$2,869,282,928, composed of im-

TRADE OF AMERICA IN 1908.

	Imports.	Exports.	Total.
Argentine Rep.	\$372,972,736	\$366,095,341	\$638,978,077
Bolivia	16,323,900	17,514,000	33,837,900
Brazil	177,450,000	229,475,000	397,925,000
Chile	97,591,421	116,483,411	214,040,832
Colombia	13,513,892	14,998,744	28,512,636
Costa Rica	5,629,405	7,757,525	13,386,930
Cuba	85,218,391	94,605,234	179,823,715
Dominican Rep.	5,127,463	5,486,343	10,613,807
Ecuador	6,950,256	8,346,371	15,296,627
Guatemala	5,811,586	6,756,143	12,567,729
Haiti	4,791,150	3,478,848	8,270,000
Honduras	2,829,979	1,834,069	4,664,039
Mexico	110,800,000	121,370,000	232,170,000
Nicaragua	3,000,000	4,500,000	7,500,000
Panama	7,806,811	1,767,135	9,563,946
Paraguay	3,929,724	3,731,745	7,661,724
Peru (estimated)	25,000,000	27,750,000	52,750,000
Salvador	4,240,560	5,787,677	10,028,237
United States	1,116,449,681	1,752,833,247	2,869,282,928
Uruguay	34,618,804	37,280,523	71,899,327
Venezuela	9,778,810	14,560,830	24,339,640
Totals	\$2,009,703,679	\$2,837,316,268	\$4,847,019,947

WEIGHTS AND MEASURES.

Denomination.	Where used.	U.S. equiv't	Denomination.	Where used.	U.S. equiv't
Are	Metric	0.2471 acre.	Kilometer	do	0.621376 mile
Arroba	Paraguay	25 lbs.	League (land)	Paraguay	4.633 acres.
Arroba (dry)	Argentine Republic	25.3171 lbs.	Libra	Argentine Republic	1.0127 lbs.
Do.	Brazil	25.33 lbs.	Do.	Central America	1.043 lbs.
Do.	Cuba	25.3664 lbs.	Do.	Chile	1.014 lbs.
Do.	Venezuela	25.4042 lbs.	Do.	Cuba	1.0161 lbs.
Atroba (liquid)	Cuba and Venezuela	4.263 gals.	Do.	Mexico	1.0146 lbs.
Barril	Arg. Rep. and Mexico	4.2087 gals.	Do.	Peru	1.0143 lbs.
Carga	Mexico and Salvador	390 lbs.	Do.	Uruguay	1.0143 lbs.
Centaro	Central America	4.2631 gals.	Do.	Venezuela	1.0161 lbs.
Do.	Argentine Republic	78.9 yds.	Liter	Metric	1.0567 qts.
Do.	Paraguay (square)	8.077 sq. ft.	Maraca	Costa Rica	1.566 acres.
Do.	Uruguay	2 ac. (nearly)	Meter	Bolivia	0.507 lb.
Cubic meter	Metric	35.3 cu. ft.	Pie	Argentine Republic	35.37 in.
Fanega (dry)	Central America	1.5745 bu.	Quintal	do	0.9478 ft.
Do.	Chile	2.575 bu.	Do.	Brazil	101.42 lbs.
Do.	Cuba	1.599 bu.	Do.	Chile, Mexico, Peru	130.06 lbs.
Do.	Mexico	1.54728 bu.	Do.	Paraguay	101.61 lbs.
Do.	Uruguay (double)	7.776 bu.	Do.	Metric	100 lbs.
Do.	Uruguay (single)	3.888 bu.	Suerte	Uruguay	220.46 lbs.
Do.	Venezuela	1.599 bu.	Vara	Argentine Republic	34.1208 in.
Franco	Argentine Republic	2.5096 qts.	Do.	Central America	33.874 in.
Do.	Metric	2.5 qts.	Do.	Chile and Peru	33.767 in.
Gram	Metric	15.432 gr.	Do.	Cuba	33.384 in.
Hectare	do	2.471 acres.	Do.	Mexico	33.33 in.
Hectoliter (dry)	do	2.838 bu.	Do.	Paraguay	34 in.
Hectoliter (liq.)	do	36.417 gals.	Do.	Venezuela	33.384 in.
Kilogram (kilo)	do	2.2046 lbs.			